



# KidMail

December 20, 2023

Dear MGC Family,

I am wishing each one of you a very Merry Christmas and a blessed holiday season. I hope that you are able to spend quality time with your family and celebrate the coming of our Savior.

It's crazy to think we are almost half-way through the year! February is open enrollment for next year and also conferences. It is the time of year where we begin to look forward and determine who is in danger of failing or and who is ready to move to the next level. Please make sure you log into our Powerschool system to check your child's grades. As always, I would encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Just a reminder that tomorrow is an 11:30 dismissal. I am very much looking forward to 5th grade putting on our Nativity play after our all school mass. We invite you to join us for this special Advent event. Mass begins at 8:45AM and the Nativity play is right after mass.

As always if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out at [johnston@mgcparish.org](mailto:johnston@mgcparish.org) or at (414) 442-7600 extension 119.

In Faith,  
*Rachel Johnston*  
Principal

## Dates of Importance

Dec. 21 Mass at 8:45 AM then Nativity Play, 11:30 Dismissal start of Christmas Vacation  
Jan. 3 Students return to school  
Jan. 12 Warm & Cozy Day – wear flannel, fleece, or sweats, NO pjs  
Jan. 15 MLK Jr. Day – No school  
Jan. 17 Wear Be Kind shirt and uniform bottoms



## January Menus

Here is a link for the menus for January

<https://uploads.weconnect.com/mce/e411a490148911bb6ee16beaa6f794a437b3bc9d/LunchMenu/23-24/January%202024%20Menus.pdf>

## **An Advent Prayer**



Heavenly Father, heal my heart during this season of Advent.  
Help me to love more fully.  
To forgive more generously.  
To wait more patiently for Christmas, embracing each day and hour knowing the joy that awaits.  
In Your name I pray. Amen.

## **Birthday Treats**

Just a friendly reminder regarding birthday treats. We ask that if you are bringing a treat with your child to school that it be pre-packaged. We ask that you limit it to one simple treat. Fast food is not an option for us here at MGC as it goes against federal and state mandated health codes. Students may not bring juice, soda, hot or iced tea. Students may have a modest treat, but no pizza or fast food of any kind. Be aware that the idea is to celebrate your child's birthday at the end of the day. The passing out of treats is not a party and is not intended to disrupt the flow of learning throughout the day. Thank you kindly for following these guidelines. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

## **COVID/FLU/RSV Season**

As we move forward into the winter season, we also prepare for upticks in COVID and Flu. Multiple news sources have reported that lung infections and RSV are quickly on the rise causing children to be quite ill. As we strive to remain safe and healthy, here a few important MGC protocols and policies to review:

- Students who are sent home sick with vomiting or fever are not to return to school for 24 hours and symptoms have subsided
- If your child has been exposed to COVID, we ask that you test as soon as possible.
  - A. If your child has been exposed, but tests negative for COVID, we asked that they mask for 5 days
  - B. If your child has tested positive for COVID, please report to the school. The student is to be out of school for 5 days. Student may return after 5 days if symptom free, and is required to wear a mask for 5 days

Your compliance and cooperation is greatly appreciated. It takes all of our efforts to mitigate these viruses which can seriously affect student and staff attendance compelling us to deliver instruction virtually. We can all agree that being physically in school, learning and being part of the community is our collective goal and responsibility. You are encouraged to keep up with COVID and FLU vaccines/boosters, and to use testing as a resource when you have knowingly been exposed to COVID or are experiencing symptoms. Let's pray for a calm season.

### **RESOURCES:**

[Health Department](#)

[CDC/RSV information](#)

## DentaMed



DentaMed's licensed dental providers will be offering **free** cleanings and fluoride treatments to our students will be rescheduled. **We are waiting for a new date. There is still time to sign up.** We ask that parents complete a consent to treat or waiver of treatment for each child. Paper copies were sent home or contact the school office.

## It's Cold Outside – and it will get even colder!

Please remember that we do take the children outside for recess during winter. If the temperature/wind chill is at or above zero, we go outside. It is important that every MGC student come to school every day prepared for recess. This includes a winter coat, hat, mittens/gloves, scarves, snowpants, and boots. Children who do not have snow pants and boots are not allowed to play in the snow. Please do not put your child in that situation!



## Be Kind T-Shirts



You don't want to miss this opportunity to be seen wearing our "theme" t-shirt on our Be Kind Days (third Wednesday of the month). Shirts are available in two colors and both long sleeve and short sleeve. Use code **MGCPICKUP** and orders will be sent to school at no cost.

Here is a link where you can purchase these t-shirts.

<https://www.shopjaynas.com/products/be-kind-mgc-t-shirts>

There are some Be Kind T-Shirts for sale in the school office. Contact Mrs. Berthold for size info.

## Volunteers Needed

We are looking for people to join the following committees: **School Committee, Athletic Board and Home & School Association.** It's a great way to make a difference! If interested, please contact me at [johnston@mgpcarish.org](mailto:johnston@mgpcarish.org), or contact the school secretary Mrs. Barb Berthold at (414) 442-7600 extension 118.



## Like us on Facebook and Instagram



We hope you will "like and follow" us on Facebook! We post MGC School news, pictures, updates and more on the page so be sure to "follow" us.  
<https://www.facebook.com/MGCMilwaukeeWI>

On Instagram we are @mgpcarish

## Birthday Club

Celebrate your child's birthday the MGC way! For \$20.00 you get all that is in the picture and their name on the sign outside the school.

[https://uploads.weconnect.com/mce/e411a490148911bb6ee16beaa6f794a437b3bc9d/School/MKE%20Fall%20Science%20Party%20FLYER\\_22.pdf](https://uploads.weconnect.com/mce/e411a490148911bb6ee16beaa6f794a437b3bc9d/School/MKE%20Fall%20Science%20Party%20FLYER_22.pdf)

## Weather Regulations



When there is a question of whether the school will be opening for the day because of extreme weather conditions, Archdiocesan regulations require that the school follow the Milwaukee Public School system. **The decision not to open is usually made before 6:00 AM on the day in question and is announced on local radio and TV stations. If the announcement is made that MPS schools are closed due to inclement weather, MGC will also be closed.**

Whenever the school is closed due to inclement weather, ECP and the parish offices are also closed. However, if MPS is not in session, or for some reason fails to close, an independent decision will be made for MGC. This decision will be made by Mrs. Johnston and Fr. Reed. The announcement will be made on local television and radio stations. Additionally, if MGC closes independently of MPS, an e-mail and text will be sent and local TV/radio stations will be informed.

**MGC will not close early due to inclement weather.** However, parents are welcome to come to school and pick up their children if they deem that to be in their family's best interest.

If MPS closes early or fails to open due to staffing concerns, that will not affect MGC.

## MGC's Website

Have you checked-out MGC's website ([www.mgcparish.org](http://www.mgcparish.org))? If not, please do so. You'll find a great deal of information about our church and school. The hot lunch menu is posted there so you don't have to worry about losing yours. Current and past editions of KidMail are also posted there. There are also many great student resources available through the library page. Don't miss this great resource!



## **Scroll Down for Calendar**

# MGC School Calendar

## 2023-2024

ALL students are expected to arrive on time and to be picked up on time.  
Students may start arriving at 7:35 AM



21 – Mass then Nativity Play, 11:30 Dismissal  
22 - No school, Christmas vacation begins



2 - No school In-service  
3 - Classes resume  
9 - School Committee Meeting  
12 - Warm and Cozy Day, wear flannel, fleece, or sweats no pjs.  
15 - MLK Day No school  
17 - Wear Be Kind shirt and uniform bottoms  
28 – Feb 3 - Catholic Schools Week

**Full calendar may be found on the School News page**

<https://www.mgcparish.org/school-news>

Parents/guardians are encouraged to check KidMail each Wednesday for regular updates.

MGC's Extended Care Program is fully licensed. Children must be registered with all completed paperwork turned in. ECP is open on school days and for summer camp, but children must be pre-registered. Parents/guardians are responsible for all ECP fees; failure to pay may result in dismissal from the program.

*Mother of Good Counsel Catholic School is an inclusive urban community committed to:  
serving, learning, loving, and living lives of integrity as Christ did.*